



Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

0053495

00-ERD-147

AUG 1 2000

Mr. D. A. Faulk
100 Area Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5
Richland, Washington 99352

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EDMC

Dear Mr. Faulk:

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) COMMENTS ON 105-B
REACTOR MUSEUM FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT

This letter is in response to EPA's concerns that all requirements in Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri Party Agreement) Milestone M-93-05 were not met in the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) deliverable. DOE has been working with EPA for several months on the path forward for the B Reactor disposition and the completion of the M-93-05 Tri-Party Agreement Milestone. As referenced in your comments, the purpose of the documents (BHI-01384 and BHI-01385) was to determine mitigation and costs of the hazards identified from the Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-93-04 report. As in previous discussions with DOE Richland Operations Office and EPA, it has been DOE's and EPA's intent to follow up these reports with a formal decision process using an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) and an Action Memorandum. We regret that this was not specifically stated in the transmittal of the above documents.

DOE wishes to assure EPA that, although it was not designated as part of the FY 2000 scope of work, DOE intends to follow through with the EE/CA and has identified funding to begin the process immediately. DOE is committed to deliver a draft EE/CA to EPA by January 31, 2001. DOE will provide support to EPA with the public comment period and through the approval of the Action Memorandum. The EE/CA will evaluate the No Action, full hazard mitigation, and Interim Safe Storage alternatives at a minimum.

Your last major comment concerned access controls around the facility, especially in relation to existing waste sites, and the analysis of the exposure scenarios for personnel. These will be addressed in the EE/CA evaluation that will be submitted in January 2001.

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00-ERD-147

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AUG 1 2000

Please concur below if this adequately addresses all the requirements of Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-93-05 and EPA's comments. If you should have any questions, please contact D. C. Smith, Environmental Restoration Division, at (509) 372-1544.


Sincerely,



Hector M. Rodriguez, Acting Program Manager
Office of Regulatory Liaison

cc: D. H. Butler, BHI
R. P. Henckel, BHI
T. E. Logan, BHI
G. Weisskopf, BRMA
W. Burke, CTUIR
R. F. Stanley, Ecology
A. B. Stone, Ecology
D. R. Sherwood, EPA
J. S. Hertz, FHI
M. B. Reeves, HAB
P. Sobotta, NPT
M. L. Blazek, Oregon Energy
R. Jim, YN
Admin Record, (100-BC-1)

EPA Concurrence:



D. A. Faulk, 100 Area Project Manager